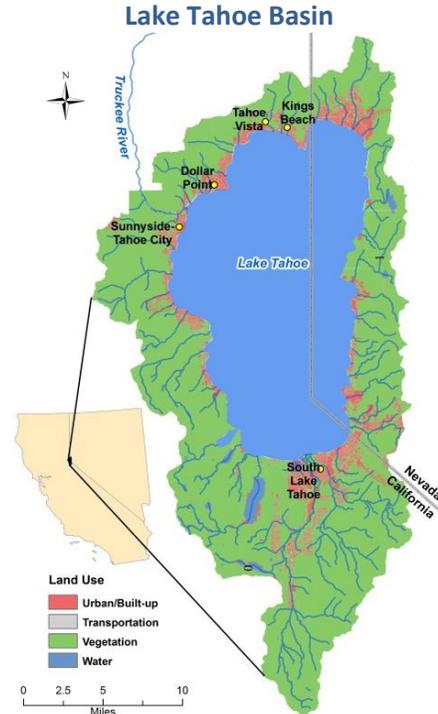


Total Maximum Daily Load Progress Report		Lake Tahoe Sediment and Nutrient TMDL
Regional Water Board	Lahontan, Region 6	STATUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conditions Improving <input type="checkbox"/> Data Inconclusive <input type="checkbox"/> Improvement Needed <input type="checkbox"/> TMDL Achieved/Waterbody Delisted
Beneficial uses affected:	REC-2	
Pollutant(s) addressed:	Fine sediment particles, TN, TP	
Implemented through:	Municipal NPDES Stormwater Permits, Restoration Projects, and TRPA Transportation Policy	
Approval date:	April 19, 2011	

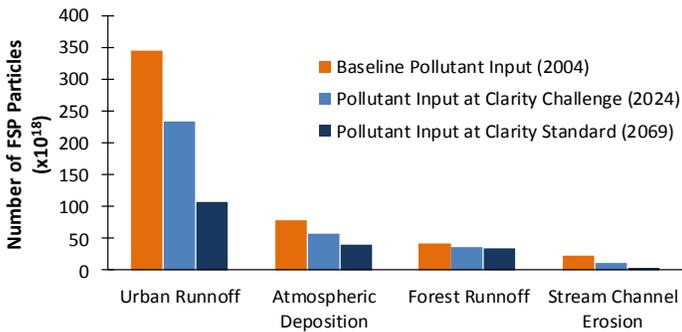
TMDL Summary

Declining clarity of Lake Tahoe is attributed to both the increase in fine sediment particles (FSP) and the increase in algae production from inputs of nitrogen and phosphorus. Urban runoff is the largest FSP source, contributing 72% of the FSP load. Other FSP sources include atmospheric deposition (ATM), disturbed forest areas, and stream channel erosion. To halt transparency decline and measurably improve transparency, the Lahontan Water Board adopted a [TMDL for sediment in Lake Tahoe](#) that was approved by the U.S. EPA in April 2011.

The TMDL calls for reducing FSP loading by 65% to improve transparency and reducing total nitrogen (TN) and total phosphorus (TP) loading by 10% and 35%, respectively, to limit algal growth. TMDL implementation measures focus on reducing FSP loading from urban stormwater sources, particularly roadways and restoring streams and disturbed forest areas. The TMDL implementation schedule calls for achieving the interim transparency goal (Clarity Challenge) of 24m of measured clarity by 2025.



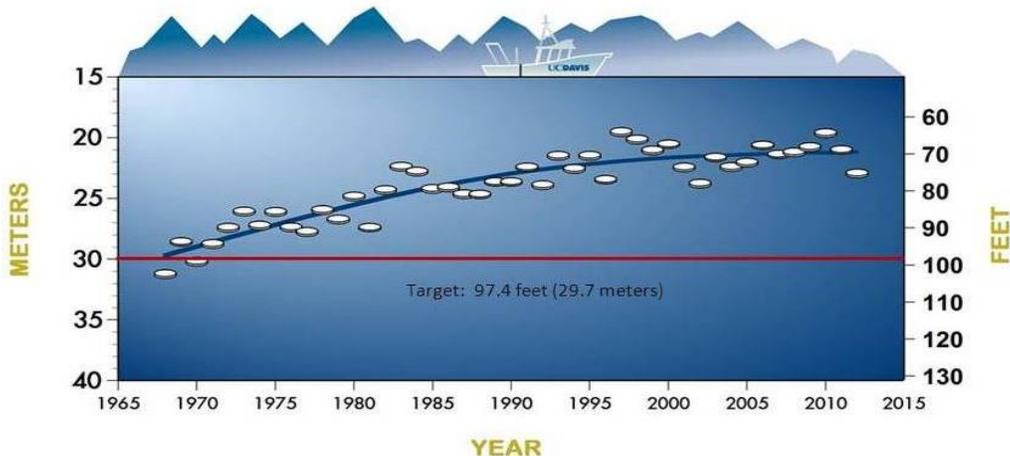
Fine Sediment Particle Inputs/TMDL Load Reduction Targets



Water Quality Outcomes

- Lake Tahoe's clarity has improved since 2010.
- 2012 had an average annual clarity level of 75.3 feet, a 6.4 foot improvement from 2011.
- Municipal NPDES Stormwater Permits and Statewide Caltrans permit were updated to include pollutant load reductions.
- Regional Board staff will update Regional Transportation Plan to address atmospheric pollutant loading.

Lake Tahoe Annual Average Secchi Depth



A Secchi disk is a circular plate attached to a rope. The disk is lowered into the water until it is no longer visible. Secchi disk depth, then, is a measure of water clarity. A higher Secchi reading means more rope was let out before the disk disappeared from sight and indicates clearer water. Lower readings indicate turbid or colored water.

See more at [UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center](#)